

4. What type of information will I have to give EMS personnel when they arrive to treat me?

EMS providers will not ask you for your insurance information or request any payment at the time of service. All insurance information will be obtained through the facility where you received your medical care.

5. As a supervisor of a facility or group of people, am I or my organization responsible for reimbursement if I call 9-1-1 for someone in my charge?

No. Only the person for whom 9-1-1 is called would be responsible for the fees for service. **9-1-1 should be contacted as soon as someone may need emergency medical services.** Anyone, including teachers, coaches, facility managers should not hesitate to call 9-1-1 when emergency medical services are needed.

6. I called 9-1-1 and was transported by ambulance to the hospital and then transported to another hospital by a private ambulance service. Will I be charged twice?

You may be, however, private ambulance services are different from Emergency Medical Services. Loudoun County would only request reimbursement for the EMS ambulance transport. The private ambulance or other service may charge a separate fee for the transport from one hospital to another.

7. Will the Volunteer Rescue Squads still need donations?

Yes; the cost of providing EMS services continues to grow and our Volunteer EMS agencies still rely on community support.

8. Will billing impact the donations and fund drives or volunteer EMS agencies?

Most agencies who have researched this issue have found that there is little to no impact on fundraiser and donation collections.

Loudoun County Department of Fire, Rescue
and Emergency Management
801 Sycolin Road, Suite 200
Leesburg, VA 20175



Loudoun County Emergency Medical Services Transport Reimbursement Program

Begins Fall 2014



For more information contact:

703-737-8782

emscostrecovery@loudoun.gov

Visit the website at:

www.loudoun.gov/emsreimbursement

Dear Loudoun County Resident,

Loudoun County's Emergency Medical Services Transport Reimbursement Program is scheduled to begin in the Fall of 2014.

Loudoun County's Fire and Rescue System strives to provide the best emergency medical service possible to residents and visitors. Our EMS services are provided through a combination system that includes career and volunteer personnel who administer around-the-clock, quality emergency medical care.

Loudoun County's Emergency Medical Services Transport Reimbursement Program is based on concern for the medical and financial health of our residents. It is designed to minimize the out-of-pocket costs for residents and charges are based on the level of emergency care provided.

All funds received through the program will be directed back into the fire-rescue system to include volunteer companies. This revenue will pay for training, equipment, specialty apparatus, and support personnel, allowing us to continue to provide quality care with competency and compassion.

The fire-rescue system assures residents and visitors that implementation of EMS transport reimbursement will not diminish the way care is provided by Loudoun EMS providers.



Important things to remember:

- If you are transported by ambulance to the hospital, your insurance company, Medicare or Medicaid, will be billed first. You will then receive a bill for any co-insurance or deductibles.
- If you are unable to pay because of a financial hardship, the county will not pursue payment and will not refer the bill to collection. No one will suffer financial hardship as a result of emergency medical transport.
- There is no charge for emergency medical treatment if the patient is not transported.
- Loudoun County Fire and Rescue system personnel will continue to protect patients' privacy, with strict adherence to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA) standards. Ongoing training will ensure compliance with HIPPA requirements.

We are proud to serve the people of Loudoun County and are committed to the highest quality service and care.

Sincerely,

W. Keith Brower, Jr.
Fire-Rescue Chief
Loudoun County Combined Fire-Rescue System



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. Why does Loudoun County seek reimbursement for EMS services?

- Through the EMS Transport Reimbursement Program, we obtain financial reimbursement for the cost of providing medically necessary ambulance transportation.
- Medicaid, Medicare and most private insurance policies (health, automobile, and/or homeowners) already allow for reimbursement for this service.
- Loudoun County is implementing this program to seek reimbursement of the cost of providing these services which will help offset some of the operational expenses for providing a combination of volunteer and career fire, rescue, and emergency services system.

Loudoun County approved the adoption of [Codified Ordinance 911](#) that establishes the program parameters. Additionally, Section 32.1-111.14 of the Code of Virginia authorizes counties to make reasonable charges for emergency service transportation.

2. Will Medicare pay for EMS transportation services?

Yes. Medicare will cover 80% of the *Medicare-Allowed Fee for Transport and Mileage*; as long as the transport is 'medically necessary', as defined by Medicare.

3. What are the current fees for these services?

BLS (Basic Life Support)	\$467.00
ALS1 (Advanced Life Support, Level 1)	\$660.00
ALS2 (Advanced Life Support, Level 2)	\$770.00

Example: ALS1 Transport Fee: \$ 660.00

- Medicare 2014 Allowable: $\$417.24 \times 80\% = \333.79
- Patient 20% of Allowable = \$83.45

Example: Mileage Fee: \$11.00 / transported mile

- Medicare 2014 Allowable: $\$7.16 \times 80\% = \5.73
- Patient 20% of Allowable = \$ 1.43